

In the Specification:

On page 12, please insert the following paragraph after line 14:

--Figure 11 is a block diagram of an electronic device for determining the similarity between two data strings of data entities according to the present invention.--

On page 23, please insert the following paragraphs after line 28:

--Figure 11 illustrates an electronic device 20 for determining the similarity between the two data strings of data entities. The electronic device comprises a receiving component (input module) 22 for receiving, a processing unit 22, and an interface 24.

The component (input module) 22 for receiving is for receiving a first string of entities 23 and a second string of entities 25. The component for receiving can be embodied as a single interface or input module or as two different interface (input) modules for receiving said two strings. The interface module can further comprise a quantifier such as an analog digital converter 27 to provide a string even from an arbitrary analogue signal. The component for receiving can also comprise an interface 29 to receive said first or second signal from a storage 30.

The processing unit 24 is connected to said receiving component (input module) 22. The processing unit is configured to determine at least (one tuple of) consecutively following data entities in both of said strings. Said processing unit is further configured to determine the relative position of said at least one tuple of consecutively following data entities in both of said data strings. Said processing unit is configured to determine a matching measure by comparing how far the relative positions of the at least one tuple of similar consecutively following data entities in said second data string matches with the relative position of said at least one tuple of consecutively following data entities in said first data string. Said processing unit is further configured to output a similarity measure 31 which corresponds to the matching measure of at least one comparison result. The processing unit can further be configured to execute the processes of the preceding description.

The interface 26 is connected to said processing unit for outputting said similarity level 31. The interface can further serve for outputting said first and/or second string. The interface can also serve for outputting said strings.

Yet another example embodiment of the electronic device further comprises a storage 32 that is connected to said processing unit for storing received strings and said determined levels of similarity. The storage can also be used to retrieve pre-stored strings from.--